

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently Amended) A breathable outer cover laminate, comprising:

a breathable, stretch-thinned barrier film having one or more layers;

one ~~film layer~~ of the layers including a mixture of filler particles and a biodegradable thermoplastic polymer, having voids formed around the filler particles to facilitate passage of water vapor through the film, and constituting 50-100 % of a thickness of the film;

each ~~film layer~~ of the layers including a biodegradable thermoplastic polymer; and

a fibrous nonwoven web continuously adjacent to the film and including a biodegradable thermoplastic polymer;

wherein the biodegradable thermoplastic polymers are selected from the group consisting of polylactic acid polymers; polyester terpolymers of butanediol, adipic or succinic acid, and terephthalic acid; polycaprolactone polymers; and combinations thereof.

22. (Original) The breathable laminate of Claim 21, wherein the film and nonwoven web are adhesively bonded together.

23. (Original) The breathable laminate of Claim 21, wherein the film and nonwoven web are thermally bonded together.

24. (Original) The breathable laminate of Claim 21, wherein the nonwoven web comprises a spunbond web.

25. (Original) The breathable laminate of Claim 21, wherein the nonwoven web comprises a meltblown web.

26. (Original) The breathable laminate of Claim 21, wherein the nonwoven web comprises an air laid web.

27-30. (Canceled)

31. (Original) A personal care article comprising the breathable laminate of Claim 21.

32-34. (Canceled)

35. (Original) A medical article comprising the breathable laminate of Claim 21.

36. (Canceled)

37. (Previously Presented) The breathable laminate of Claim 21, wherein the biodegradable thermoplastic polymer in each film layer comprises a terpolymer of butanediol, terephthalic acid, and adipic acid.

38. (Previously Presented) The breathable laminate of Claim 21, wherein the filler particles comprise inorganic filler particles.

39. (Previously Presented) The breathable laminate of Claim 38, wherein the filler particles comprise calcium carbonate.

40. (Previously Presented) The breathable laminate of Claim 21, wherein the filler particles comprise organic filler particles.

41. (Previously Presented) The breathable laminate of Claim 21, wherein the filler particles comprise water-swellaable filler particles.

42. (Previously Presented) The breathable laminate of Claim 21, wherein the filler particles comprise biodegradable filler particles.

43. (Previously Presented) The breathable laminate of Claim 42, wherein the filler particles comprise a cyclodextrin.

44. (Previously Presented) The breathable laminate of Claim 21, wherein the one film layer comprises about 5-80% by weight of the filler particles and about 20-95% by weight of the biodegradable thermoplastic polymer.

45. (Previously Presented) The breathable laminate of Claim 21, wherein the one film layer comprises about 20-40% by weight of the filler particles and about 60-80% by weight of the biodegradable thermoplastic polymer.

46. (Previously Presented) The breathable laminate of Claim 21, wherein the one film layer comprises greater than 45% to about 80% by weight of the filler particles and about 20% to less than 55% by weight of the biodegradable thermoplastic polymer.

47. (Previously Presented) The breathable laminate of Claim 21, wherein the one film layer comprises about 50-65% by weight of the filler particles and about 35-50% by weight of the biodegradable thermoplastic polymer.

48. (Previously Presented) The breathable laminate of Claim 21, wherein the film has been uniaxially stretched.

49. (Previously Presented) The breathable laminate of Claim 21, wherein the film has been biaxially stretched.

50. (Currently Amended) A breathable outer cover laminate, comprising:

a breathable, stretch-thinned barrier film having two or more layers;

two ~~adjacent film of the layers~~ being adjacent and each including a mixture of about 5-80% by weight filler particles and about 20-95% by weight of a biodegradable thermoplastic polymer, having voids formed around the filler particles, and together constituting 50-100% of a thickness of the film;

each ~~film-layer of the layers~~ including a biodegradable thermoplastic polymer; and

a fibrous nonwoven web continuously adjacent to the film and including a biodegradable thermoplastic polymer;

wherein the biodegradable thermoplastic polymers are selected from the group consisting of polylactic acid polymers; polyester terpolymers of butanediol, adipic or succinic acid, and terephthalic acid; polycaprolactone polymers; and combinations thereof.

51. (Previously Presented) A personal care article comprising the breathable laminate of Claim 50.

52. (Previously Presented) A medical article comprising the breathable laminate of Claim 50.

53. (Currently Amended) A breathable outer cover laminate, comprising:

a breathable, stretch-thinned barrier film having one to three layers including a primary breathable layer;

the primary breathable layer including a mixture of filler particles and a biodegradable thermoplastic polymer, and having voids formed around the filler particles to facilitate passage of water vapor;

each ~~film-layer of the layers~~ including a biodegradable thermoplastic polymer; and

a fibrous nonwoven web continuously adjacent to the film and including a biodegradable thermoplastic polymer.

54. (Previously Presented) The breathable laminate of Claim 53, wherein the biodegradable thermoplastic polymers are selected from the group consisting of polylactic acid polymers; polyester terpolymers of butanediol, adipic or succinic acid, and terephthalic acid; polycaprolactone polymers; and combinations thereof.

55. (Canceled)

56. (Previously Presented) The breathable laminate of Claim 53, wherein the film further comprises a skin layer including filler particles, and having voids formed around the filler particles to facilitate the passage of water vapor.

57. (Previously Presented) A personal care article comprising the breathable laminate of Claim 53.

58. (Previously Presented) A medical article comprising the breathable laminate of Claim 53.

59-60. (Canceled)